

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 38327

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER: ASAM.0103



THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the Utility patent application of:

PTO

INVENTOR: **MINENOBU SEKI, KATSUMI MARUKAWA AND  
MASANOBU TAKATSU**

FOR: **QUESTION-ANSWERING METHOD AND QUESTION-  
ANSWERING APPARATUS**

Enclosed are:

- 17 sheets of  formal  informal drawings
- Priority Request transmitting certified copy of Japanese Patent application 2003-320602 to claim the priority date of September 12, 2003
- An Assignment to Hitachi, Ltd.
- An Executed Declaration
- The filing fee is calculated as shown below:

FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	CALCULATIONS
TOTAL CLAIMS	20	-20	0	x\$18 = 0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	2	-3	0	x\$86 = 0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)				+\$290 =
				\$770.00
				TOTAL OF ABOVE \$770.00
REDUCTION BY <input type="checkbox"/> FOR FILING BY SMALL ENTITY (note 37 C.F.R. § 1.9, 1.27, 1.28). IF APPLICABLE, VERIFIED STATEMENT MUST BE ATTACHED				
				\$770.00
				<b>TOTAL</b>

- A check in the amount of **\$810.00** to cover the filing fees and assignment filing fee is enclosed.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication, including patent application filing fees and processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account Number 08-1480**.

Respectfully submitted,

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